

Mindanao, Jewel of the Philippines

July 5, 1945

Mi Querida Mama:

I writ last night, but taint no harm in spilling a little ink again tonight.

I am enclosing some pretty good snapshots. Smith took them and gave them to me. Two were taken in [illegible] & two were taken in Mendanao. The one of our Bivouac area is very good I think & gives you the best idea of our surroundings of any picture I've sent yet. The Ammo is the foreground is projectiles for the 155 millimeter Howitzer. The space in the outer between the tents is the camping strut. The officer's quarters were in the right background. The frame building to be seen faintly in the right center background was our mess hall which we tore down before it was finished because of our move. Back at Sleepy Hollow arms you can see the dense trees and undergrowth about 30 yards back of the building is a marsh which extends for about a hundred yards to the beach where we had our Ammo this time last year.

I am enclosing also New Yorker's article on Roosevelt I don't quite agree with all of it, but it is well written.

Today, I received two copies of the Echo which were dated last October. Received a very nice Birthday Cakes and candy and cookies from movies. I am sure that before long I will get your packages.

Smith flew up today from the place where I left him. Now for the first time in a year we have all six officers present in the company. Prentice, however, has received his orders allowing him to return home and shall probably leave within a couple of weeks. Do you know Mama, I might get to go home soon after the first of the year. February or March we can figure it this way, only 6 more months in this year and by January of next year we should be pretty hopeful and six months is not a long time. Viewing it from the eyes of Pollyanna, we shall never again have us much to look forward to.

I was thinking tonight, I wish you and Ed would have a portrait or picture taken together. I am not being sentimental, I really think you should. We have never had a large picture of Ed.

"Beyond the blue horizon" plays over the radio, it is very pretty isn't it? "Oh Johnny" is now playing it reminds me of school teaching days in 1939.

Well, I hope G. Washington gets here soon. I am anxious to read it. Smith read Arrowsmith and thought it the best book he ever read.

Right now, I wish I was sitting on your bed talking to you and you were smoking and fixing to read until late and then sleep until long in the morning.

Good nighty night to you whom I adore and cherish and worship

Your ever loving son,

J. Harrod